

THE SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL
AND DISPENSARY.

SHORT HISTORICAL SKETCH.


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PAWSON AND BRAILSFORD, PRINTERS, HIGH STREET AND MULBERRY STREET.

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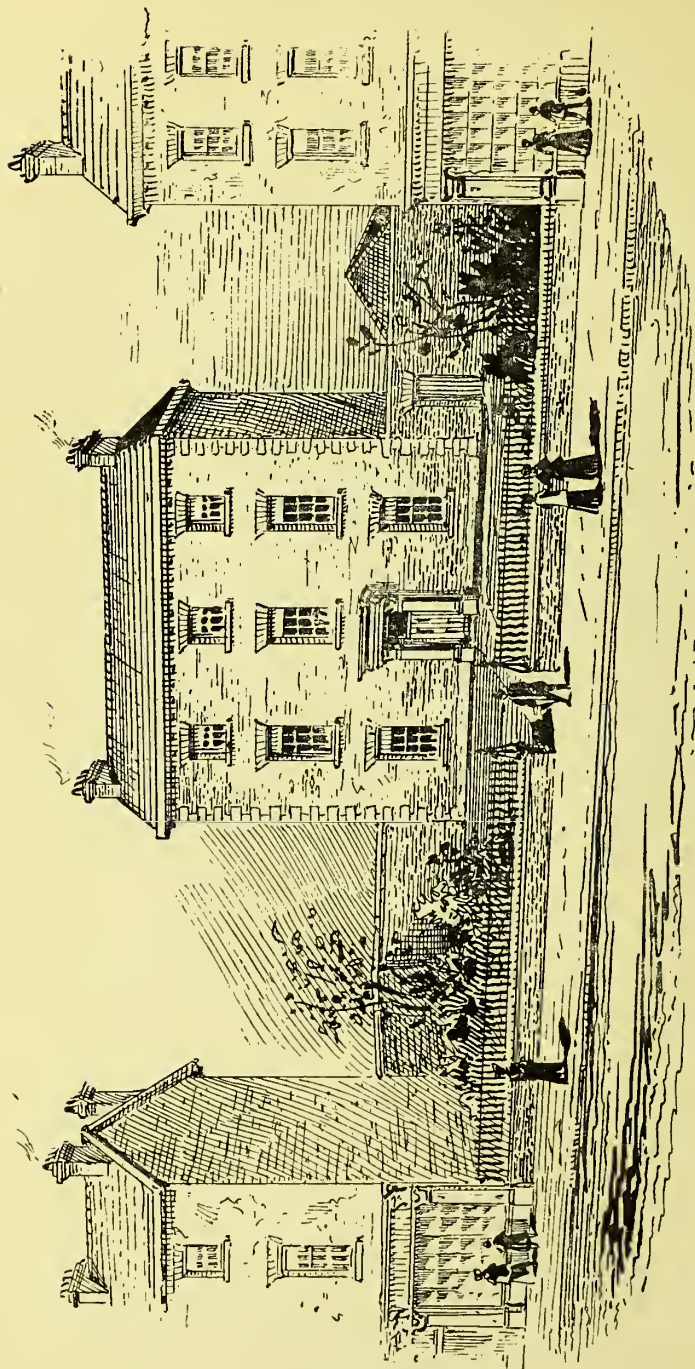


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TO THE MEMORY OF
THOMAS AUSTIN SORBY
AND
BERNARD WAKE,
MY PREDECESSORS IN THE OFFICE OF TREASURER,
THE
HEARTY SUPPORTERS OF OUR HOSPITAL,
MY GOOD AND SINCERE FRIENDS IN BOTH PROFESSIONAL
AND PRIVATE LIFE.

July, 1894.



THE SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL & DISPENSARY.

"By and by the strong foot of the great Hospital will plant itself on this whole territory, and the private recollections which cling so tenaciously and fondly to the place and its habitations will have died with those who cherished them.

"Shall they ever live again in the memory of those who loved them here below? What is this life without the poor accident which made it our own, and by which we identify ourselves? Ah me! I might like to be a winged chorister; but still it seems to me I should hardly be quite happy if I could not recall at will the old house with the long entry, and the white chamber and the little parlour, and the study, and the old books in uniforms."—OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

July 27th, 1831. Decease of Benjamin Bailey, Esq., of Westfield House, aged 91.—*Sheffield Local Register*.

Westfield House, now where the Public Hospital and Dispensary stands! Can we draw a picture of it as it was when Mr. Bailey first lived there?—with nothing but corn fields and trees between it and Young Street on the one side, and between it and Red Hill on the other: with a farm house and field, with cattle pasturing, where Messrs. Hutton's works now stand: with a country walk running to Broomhall, where Broomhall Street is now, to which the ancient name of Black Lamb's walk was given.

There are many living now who can remember the old house, but it is difficult to imagine its rural surroundings.

What would Mr. Bayley say if he could see it now?

Will it be considered presumptuous to try to recall the past: to consider the gradual evolution of the red brick house, with its grass plots on either side of a stone-flagged walk and its iron railings separating them from the street, into a great and successful "Town Hospital?"

May we try and people again the Cutlers' Hall and the Board Room with the founders and early friends of the Dispensary? May we try and realise what were its foundations and how the present superstructure has been reared?

The late Mr. Haxworth fancied that he had heard a tradition that there was a Dispensary in the middle of the last century in Prior Gate, now called High Street, but he had never been able to verify it. Dr. Sutton, at the meeting at which it was decided to start a self-supporting Dispensary, alluded to some Institution which had hitherto stood in the way of the foundation of a Dispensary, and would be superseded by it.

In a letter which Dr. Browne addressed to the people of Sheffield, April 19th, 1792, urging them to build an Infirmary, he expresses a wish that the sum subscribed "should be adequate to the institution of an Infirmary, a Lunatic Asylum, and a PUBLIC DISPENSARY." The funds were not adequate, and the matter slumbered and slept till 1828, when the Master Cutler, Mr. Samuel Hadfield, in obedience to a requisition, summoned a meeting of the inhabitants to be held at the Cutlers' Hall, August 7th, 1828.

At that meeting it was decided to establish a self-supporting Dispensary, and the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to carry out the resolution:—The

Vicar (the Rev. Thos. Sutton), the Master Cutler, the Rev. Thos. Best, the Rev. Mr. Wiedemann, Drs. Knight and Brown, and Messrs. Waterhouse, Favell, Ray, William Jackson, Hardy, Turton, Boulton, Wilson, and Watson.

On Thursday, Sept. 18th, 1828, the Master Cutler in the Chair, the following Officers were appointed:—Patrons, His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, The Right Hon. Earl Fitzwilliam, The Right Hon. Lord Wharncliffe; President, The Rev. Thomas Sutton; Secretary, The Rev. G.S. Wiedemann; Treasurer, Mr. G. Younge; Committee, Mr. Montgomery, The Rev. Thos. Best, Rev. W. H. Vale, Mr. Bayley, Mr. Thos. Watson, Mr. C. Brownell, Mr. Wm. Younge, Mr. Robert Rodgers, Mr. John Rodgers, Mr. James Wilson, Mr. Hadfield and Mr. Palfreyman; Hon. Consulting Physicians, Dr. Knight, Dr. Brown, Dr. Timm and Dr. Lennard; Surgeons, Messrs. Favell and Son, Mr. Ray, Mr. William Jackson and Mr. Waterhouse.

The first annual meeting was held on October 8th, 1829, when Mr. Gregory was elected Surgeon in place of Mr. Waterhouse, who resigned in consequence of ill health, and Dr. Holland in place of Dr. Timm. In 1830, Messrs. Favell and Son and Mr. Ray went out of office in accordance with the rules, and Messrs. Turton and Bright were elected to succeed them. At the end of the year 1831 it became necessary to alter the constitution, and a proposition was made to attach a Dispensary to the Infirmary, which was negatived on January 16th, 1832, chiefly through the active opposition of Dr. Corden Thompson.

It is very disappointing not to have any record of the work done by the self-supporting Dispensary, but in 1834, when the minutes were called for by the Board of the General Dispensary, they could not be found.

On the refusal of the Governors of the Infirmary to connect a Dispensary with their institution, immediate

steps were taken to establish a separate and distinct one, Dr. C. F. Favell acting as Hon. Secretary. On the fourth of June, 1832, a meeting of the Governors was held and officers were elected, and on the second of July the Dispensary was opened for patients in Tudor Place.

The following is a list of officers appointed on June 4th, 1832 :—Patrons, His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, Right Hon. Earl Fitzwilliam, Right Hon. Lord Howard of Effingham, Right Hon. Lord Wharncliffe; President, Hugh Parker, Esq.; Vice-Presidents, The Rev. W. Bagshaw, Thomas Watson, Esq. (and, on his death, July 30th, 1832), The Rev. Thomas Sutton; Trustees, Right Hon. Earl of Surrey, Hon. Henry Howard, Rev. Thos. Sutton, John Parker, Esq., M.P., Wm. John Bagshawe, Esq., Charles Brownell, Esq., Henry Wilson, Esq., C. F. Favell, M.D., Samuel Hadfield, Esq., Thomas B. Holy, Esq., Henry M. Greaves, Esq., Offley Shore, Esq.; Weekly Board, Mr. Henry Wilson, Rev. W. Harris, Mr. R. J. Gainsford, Mr. B. Fenton, Mr. J. Staniforth, Mr. R. Younge, Mr. H. Doncaster, Rev. J. Gibson, Dr. Knight, Mr. John Newton, Mr. Henry Newbould, Mr. Richard Bayley; Treasurers, Messrs. Rimington and Younges; Medical Officers—Physicians, Dr. C. F. Favell, Dr. H. P. Harwood, Dr. J. B. Stuart; Surgeons, Mr. James Ray, Mr. Samuel Gregory, Mr. Henry Thomas; Collector, Mr. Thomas Booker, Change Alley.

From the Report presented to the Governors, July, 1833, we learn that Dr. J. B. Stuart resigned the office of Physician on Sept. 26th, 1832, and left the town; and that on Oct. 8th, 1832, Dr. McDowall was elected in his place.

We also learn that from the earliest days the family of Hadfield, into which Mr. Ray had married, took a keen and active interest in the Dispensary, which culminated in the munificent bequest on the death of Miss Ray.

On Oct. 17th, 1832, the premises in Tudor Place having been found totally inadequate for the wants of a General Dispensary, a special meeting of Governors empowered the Weekly Board to make any alteration they deemed necessary for the convenience of the patients. Three gentlemen were appointed at once to examine Mr. Bayley's house in West Street with a view of making it a Dispensary, Mr. B. Bayley, the father of Mr. Richard Bayley, having died at an advanced age a year before.

The Committee reported that the premises were well adapted for the purposes of a Dispensary, and on Nov. 30th, 1832, purchased them for £1300. From the same report we learn that the Weekly Board lost during the first year of its existence one of its most active supporters and one of its first Vice-Presidents, viz., Mr. Thomas Watson. One of the originators of the self-supporting Dispensary in 1828, he threw himself earnestly into the work necessary to make the Public Dispensary useful and successful. He and the Rev. John Gibson were a committee appointed to confer with Mr. Rowland Hodgson about the alterations in the house in Tudor Place.

The report says: "The Public Dispensary is an infant institution, but short as has been the period of its existence, the hand of death has been busy amongst its friends and supporters. Amongst those who have been thus removed, we can but particularly allude to the late Mr. T. Watson. Those only who were intimately acquainted with Mr. Watson, knew his virtues, and only those who took the deepest interest in the establishment of this institution, and who were at its commencement intrusted with the management of its affairs, can tell how indefatigable were the exertions, and how valuable were the labours of our deceased friend." His bust still adorns the Board Rooms of the Dispensary and the Infirmary, a

monument of anonymous donations and bequests of a magnitude unknown at that time in the history of Sheffield. The bust was the work of Mr. Edward Law, and was presented to the Governors of the Dispensary by his mother, Mrs. Law.

It is worthy of notice that Mr. H. Doncaster was elected a member of the Board in June 1832, Mr. T. Ellin, junior, in July 1835, and Mr. R. Sorby in July, 1836; while in 1894 we have three members of the Board taking an active interest in its work, who are the direct descendants of these gentlemen.

In 1835 it was decided to add a Midwifery Department, and, in 1836, Mr. James Walker was appointed Surgeon-Accoucheur to the Dispensary.

This department was carried on efficiently and successfully till 1877, when it was given up in consequence of the ground being covered by the Jessop Hospital for women.

During 1834 and succeeding years the want of funds was keenly felt by the Board, and numerous appeals were made to the clergy and ministers of all denominations and the public for collections, donations and subscriptions. Workmen employed in several manufactories contributed £18 11s. 9d., and collections were made in the Parish Church, St. Paul's, St. George's, St. Mary's, and in the Catholic Chapel.

The minute book from 1844 to 1854 is not to be found, but from the reports presented to the Annual Meetings nothing apparently of consequence occurred.

In 1843, two vacancies occurred amongst the physicians, and as no one applied for the vacant offices, it was decided to elect three additional surgeons, an arrangement which continued till 1854, when, on the resignation of Mr. Martin and Mr. Porter, three physicians were appointed, viz., Dr. Hall, Dr. Law and Dr. Elam.

Until 1857 the work of a Dispensary had been strictly carried on, but in 1857 it was proposed to supplement the work by adding one or two wards, and the proposition was favourably received by the Governors.

Mr. Manning was chosen as the architect and Mr. Wood, of Derby, the contractor.

Lord Fitzwilliam laid the foundation stone of the new Hospital in the Autumn of 1858, and on April 12th, 1860, the Hospital was opened for the reception of patients.

On Jan. 25th, 1861, Dr. J. C. Hall was elected Honorary Secretary, an office which he held till his death in 1876, and the duties of which he performed with unbounded energy, with enthusiastic zeal, and rare ability. He was undoubtedly the founder of the Hospital in 1858, while he was most ably supported by the Parkers (father and son), Mr. John Newton Mappin, Mr. W. Fisher, Jun., Mr. Doncaster, Mr. W. Butcher and others. His ideas were constantly ahead of his time, but he was generally right. In 1863, he proposed to establish Hospital Sunday in conjunction with the Infirmary, but the Infirmary Board, with Dr. Sale as chairman could not see it, and it was not until October, 1867, that he was able to overcome the difficulties placed in his way. Again in 1872 he raised the question of Hospital Saturday, but the Infirmary Board again rejected it, and repeated their refusal in 1874 and 1875; yet the scheme was adopted in 1877, and has been a valuable source of income to the Medical Charities of the town ever since.

The final introduction of Hospital Saturday was mainly due to the ability and tact of Mr. John Marshall, who was successful in overcoming the objections which baffled Dr. Hall.

From 1861 to 1868, there is not much to report. "The great things of to-day, are the little things of to-morrow." That which occupied the waking thoughts of

youth, and disturbed one's sleep at night : that which seemed of such vital importance some thirty years ago, seems now of little public importance ; while to the individuals then actively engaged there are left memories of a mixed kind, friendships made and continued for life in spite of many rebuffs, energies expended often in what appears now wrong directions, youthful opinions confidently expressed when older and better men doubted. Recollections there are of much forbearance and unceasing kindness, of excellent colleagues both resident and honorary, and slight hopes that some of the work done was not altogether bad, though it does not appear at the distance of time worth so very much.

Amidst all these recollections, these regrets, still there stands out one prominent figure which one can never forget, Dr. John Charles Hall. His ability, his energy, and his intense affection for the Hospital, all lasting in full vigour till within a few hours of his death : his last anxiety, outside his own family, being a wish to foresee the future of the Hospital he loved so well and served so ably.

The work of the Secretaryship was carried on for a short time by Mr. Arthur Jackson, who had for some time assisted Dr. Hall when his health failed.

In Feb. 1877, Mr. G. F. Lockwood was elected Hon. Secretary, and has performed the duties of that office with great industry and ability up to the present time.

Ten years passed by after the opening of the Hospital, when Dr. Hall again determined to enlarge it, and though opposed for some time strenuously by the author of this pamphlet and others, he succeeded. The Governors, on July 22nd, 1868, presided over by the President, Lord Fitzwilliam, empowered the weekly Board to take the necessary steps, and in 1870 the Hospital was re-opened with accommodation for 100 beds.

In 1868, the Revs. J. E. Blakeney, H. H. Wright, Geo. Sandford and J. F. Witty very kindly undertook to have an evening service on Sundays for the patients and other inmates in the Board room; and this service has been continued up to the present time.

As long ago as 1867 there was some talk of purchasing adjoining property, with a view to some future extension of the Hospital, but nothing came of it.

In 1875, Mr. G. K. Thorpe raised the question again, pointing out to Dr. Hall the great advantages to be gained by acquiring the whole site between Westfield Terrace and Eldon Street, and West Street and Dawson Street.

In 1876, the purchase of some leasehold property in Westfield Terrace was completed, and since then nearly all the property has been acquired and Dawson Street has ceased to exist.

Having now arrived at the time when all the old land-marks are destroyed, may I introduce an account of the Dispensary given me by one who knew it well in 1844.

“Old Mrs. Tinker, great aunt of the present Mr. Roberts, of Queen’s Tower, told me that when the Dispensary house was the residence of the owner, Mr. Bayley, the flower garden was thought to be a show place, Sheffield standard for roses being probably low in 1799. Mr. Bayley’s estate was larger than the Dispensary ground plot, and was sold in pieces. I present you with a view by an eminent hand of the Dispensary as in 1844. The garden had given way to a slope of absolutely bare earth, on which lived 70 rabbits without a hutch of any sort, burrowing the whole ground. Cats and rats to match, and after that terriers to match the cats and rats, as also red herrings’ heads charged with strychnia, as gamekeepers’ lawful allies. There was a stable for the doctor’s horses accessible by the side door. The ground came down to the lower

street. There had been no change made in Mr. Bayley's interior, except that the large unnecessary Board room had been made out of two drawing rooms. There I mounted a bust of Mr. Thomas Watson, then the largest benefactor—put there to excite the emulation of the young.

It was a well proportioned house of a form common in Sheffield, and it was admirably built.

I understood the original garden to have been of exactly the dimensions of your present estate: ours however was only the square behind the house. Mr. Sanderson's steel factory was the ruin of it all: for about 40 years it spouted phlegm into West Street and Portobello Street and the little street between, and I can smell the acid now."

To resume our history: in 1879 a new Kitchen and Laundry were added. Few things of interest took place till 1889, when Mr. Bernard Wake offered to build an out-patient department. This offer was almost immediately followed by the death of Miss Ray of Claremont Place.

She was the daughter of Mr. James Ray, one of the first Surgeons of the Dispensary, who had married Miss Hadfield, the sister of Mr. Samuel Hadfield, the Master Cutler, who had presided over the meeting when the self-supporting Dispensary was established.

She was one of the good ones of the earth: her charities were boundless, her kindness and sympathy knew no limit, her simplicity of life was unequalled.

At her death a sum of money amounting to over £10,000 came to the Hospital and Dispensary. It was therefore decided to consider the building of a new Out-Patient Department and the rebuilding of the Hospital together.

The first question to decide was whether the present site was to be built upon, if the adjoining property could be

acquired, or whether a new site should be obtained. More than one site was carefully considered, but there seemed to be great advantages in favour of West Street. The Hospital in its present situation is very central, easy of access to all parts of the Town, and not far from the Railway Stations.

After deciding to build upon the old site, the Weekly Board set to work to acquire the adjoining property. This was, of course, a work of time: but eventually it was successfully carried out, with the exception of one or two shops.

On the death of Mr. Bernard Wake in 1891, a Convalescent Fund was established in his memory amounting to the sum of £2000.

For several years before his death Mr. Bernard Wake provided a Convalescent Home at Sandygate, to which patients from the Hospital could be sent on moderate terms.

In the Annual Report of 1890 the medical staff reported that "A new Hospital building is very necessary in the interests of the poor, for whose benefit the Institution has been established and is maintained. The present building has been made the most of, but its construction and arrangement are now very inadequate to the demands made upon it by the work carried on within its walls. The resulting inconvenience to all concerned, both patients and staff, is very great, and cannot but militate against the thorough efficiency of the Institution."

Towards the sum of £50,000 required to carry out this scheme, numerous large and generous donations have been given and promised.

Plans have been drawn by Mr. Charles Hadfield, which have not yet received the sanction of the Governors, but will probably do so in a short time. In these plans provision has been made for the accommodation of over

150 patients, for a proper laundry, a nurses' home, and all the other requirements of a Hospital at the end of the nineteenth century. We hope to see this scheme speedily carried out, and the inhabitants of Sheffield getting the advantages of a Hospital fully equipped with all the modern improvements.

If Mr. Bayley could come back again, he might be able to recall at will, the old house with its beautiful garden, and its rural surroundings: but he would find no trace of the old home he loved so well.

What would the little company, who met under the presidency of Samuel Hadfield, think of the new Hospital which has resulted from their Institution, the self-supporting Dispensary. Two generations have passed away since that meeting was held in the Cutlers' Hall; more will soon go, but it is to be hoped that the Public Hospital and Dispensary will continue to do good work for years and years to come; and those to come long after us will sometimes give a passing thought to the founders of 1828, and will consider that the succeeding generations endeavoured to do their duty.

PRESIDENTS.

1832	HUGH PARKER.	1853	WILLIAM SMITH.
1834	REV. W. BAGSHAW.	1855	THOMAS DUNN.
1836	DR. KNIGHT.	1857	WILLIAM FISHER.
1838	LORD HOWARD.	1859	WILLIAM BUTCHER.
1840	RIGHT HON. EARL OF SURREY.	1861	J. NEWTON MAPPIN.
1844	REV. DR. SUTTON.	1863	JOHN BROWN.
1846	H. M. GREAVES.	1865	WILLIAM BUTCHER.
1847	SAMUEL ROBERTS, JUNR.	1867	RIGHT HON. EARL FITZWILLIAM.
1849	ROBERT SORBY.	1869	HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NORFOLK
1851	RIGHT HON. EARL OF EFFINGHAM.		

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

1832	REV. W. BAGSHAW.	1842	WILLIAM FISHER.
1832	THOMAS WATSON, OBIT.	1844	REV. W. BAGSHAWE.
	JULY, 1832.	1847	ROBERT SORBY.
1832-6	REV. THOS. SUTTON.	1847	JAMES WILSON.
1834	DR. KNIGHT.	1848	EDWARD VICKERS.
1836	O. SHORE.	1849	WILLIAM SMITH.
1836	W. J. BAGSHAWE.	1853	WILLIAM FISHER.
1837	CHARLES BROWNELL.	1857	THOMAS DUNN.
1837	JOHN READ.	1857	WILLIAM BUTCHER.
1838	M. ELLISON.	1862	JOHN BROWN.
1838	HENRY WILSON.	1863	JOHN NEWTON MAPPIN.
1840	JOHN VICKERS.	1871	HENRY WILSON.
1840	SAMUEL ROBERTS, JUN.	1881	SIR F. T. MAPPIN, M.P.

CHAIRMEN OF THE WEEKLY BOARD.

1833-1844,	THE REV. J. GIBSON.	1861-1870,	THE REV. S. EARN-
1844-1850,	THE REV. W. HARRIS.		SHAW.
1850-1853,	THE REV. G. TREVOR.	1870-1883,	THE REV. H. H.
1853-1855,	THE REV. THOS. SALE.		WRIGHT.
1855-1861,	THE REV. THOS. BEST.	1883-	, MR. T. S. ELLIN.

PHYSICIANS.

CHARLES F. FAVELL	1832—1843.	H. P. HARWOOD	.. 1837—1843.
H. P. HARWOOD	.. 1832—1835.		(re-elected)
J. B. STUART	.. 1832—1832.	G. C. HOLLAND	.. 1838—1839.
R. M. DOWALL	.. 1832—1836.	M. M. DE. BARTOLOMÉ	1839—1841.
J. BALBIRNIE	.. 1836—1838.	Re-elected	.. 1842—1843.

From 1843 to 1847 the Dispensary was worked with two Consulting Physicians (Drs. Favell and Harwood), and six Surgeons, and from 1847 to 1854, with six Surgeons only.

In 1854 three Physicians were appointed, and the Surgeons were reduced to three in number.

PHYSICIANS.

J. C. HALL ..	1854—1876.	WILLIAM DYSON ..	1876—1885.
JOSEPH LAW ..	1854—1876.	W. R. THOMAS ..	1876—1887.
CHARLES ELAM ..	1854—1856.	W. S. PORTER ..	1883—1887
C. J. SHEARMAN ..	1856—1862.	S. M. P. ROBERTS ..	1885—1891.
CHARLES SMITH ..	1862—1865.	D. BURGESS ..	1887—
W. FRANK SMITH ..	1865—1868.	A. J. HALL ..	1891—
SAMUEL MITCHELL	1869—1873.	CROCHLEY CLAPHAM	1892—
H. J. BRANSON ..	1873—1883.		

SURGEONS.

JAMES RAY ..	1832—1841.	H. J. HUNTER ..	1848—1860.
SAMUEL GREGORY..	1832—1848.	SAMUEL PARKER ..	1849—1866.
HENRY THOMAS ..	1832—1835.	ARTHUR JACKSON ..	1866—1877.
J. F. WRIGHT ..	1835—1867.	JAMES H. KEELING	1867—1892.
EDWARD MARTIN..	1841—1854.	G. K. THORPE ..	1874—1893.
HENRY BOULTBEE..	1843—1849.	R. J. PYE-SMITH ..	1877—
THOMAS CHESMAN..	1843—1874.	SINCLAIR WHITE ..	1892—
J. T. PORTER ..	1843—1854.	H. LOCKWOOD ..	1893—

HONORARY PHYSICIANS.

JOSEPH LAW 1876.	W. DYSON 1891.
H. J. BRANSON 1883.	W. S. PORTER 1891.
W. R. THOMAS 1887.	S. M. P. ROBERTS ..	1891.

HONORARY SURGEONS.

JAMES RAY ..	1841—1850.	SAMUEL PARKER ..	1866—1876.
SAMUEL GREGORY..	1848—1859.	J. F. WRIGHT ..	1867—1880.
EDWARD MARTIN..	1854—1874.	ARTHUR JACKSON..	1877—
J. T. PORTER ..	1854—1874.	J. H. KEELING ..	1892—
H. J. HUNTER ..	1860—	G. K. THORPE ..	1893—

